

but must go for dollars and cents alone. He believed that just as much talent could be secured at the present salaries as at the proposed increase.

Mr. Merrick moved to make the salary of the chief judges \$4,000, and of the associate judges \$3,000, which he thought was the lowest sum at which a proper degree of efficiency on the bench could be secured.

Mr. Kennedy desired to place himself on the record as in favor of giving the highest salaries to the best men. He was in favor of raising the compensation to such a standard as to induce gentlemen of talent and distinction to accept seats on the bench. He was willing that his taxes should be increased for this purpose. To use a common and somewhat vulgar expression, he was not in favor of saving at the spigot and letting out at the bung. The placing of an inferior order of men on the bench at low salaries, who did not possess the requisite knowledge of the science of the law and the jurisprudence of the country caused erroneous decisions, which subjected the people to great expense and inconvenience. He did not wish to be misunderstood; he was in favor of a proper economical administration of the affairs of the State, but this was the very last matter which should be subjected to that rule. It was a most unwise economy which would impair the proper administration of justice. He was not one of those who were to go before the people; he wanted nothing, and in this matter spoke his earnest convictions. He was proud of his position on this floor, and was determined to do what he thought was right, undeterred by any fear of popular clamor, and he should vote for the highest salaries which had been named. He believed that a reduction of these salaries would be a great wrong to the mass of the people around them.

Mr. McKaig said that, in the last ten years, the bench had not been occupied by more than second-rate men. Of course there were exceptions, but they proved the rule that, at the present rates, competent judges could not be found. In England a judge was generally a lord. It was a matter of honor there, but here it was a matter of dollars and cents, just as the gentleman from Charles, (Mr. Stoddert,) had said. The members from the lower counties said they could get good judges for \$2,500. Very